

In the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A machine knife for trimming books or the like, having a knife support made of metal, which can be connected with a machine, and a blade made of a cutting material, which is to be connected with the knife support, wherein the blade, as a part which can be replaced in the knife support, is designed in such a way that it can be combined with a blade holder to form an inseparable component, wherein the blade holder is releasably attached to the knife support and is of such a size and shape that it can be comfortably manipulated and securely positioned, wherein the knife support has a seam-shaped cutout opposite a cutting edge of the blade for receiving the blade holder in a flat and flush manner, and boundary faces of the seam-shaped cutout at the inner end, the same as the boundary faces of the blade holder acting together with them, each extend at an angle of < 90° with respect to each other.

2. (Previously Presented) The machine knife in accordance with claim 1, wherein the blade holder is made of metal, is essentially designed strip-shaped and has a slightly trapezoidal cross section.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Previously Presented) The machine knife in accordance with claim 1, wherein the blade has been embedded in a lock seam on the free end of the blade holder.

6. (Previously Presented) The machine knife in accordance with claim 5, wherein boundary faces at the inner end of the lock seam, the same as the boundary faces of the blade acting together with them, each extend at an angle of < 90° in respect to each other.

7. (Previously Presented) The machine knife in accordance with claim 1, wherein the blade has been embedded in a groove, which extends slightly inclined in respect to the surface of the blade holder.

8. (Previously Presented) The machine knife in accordance with claim 1, wherein at the knife tip the blade holder is recessed in respect to the knife support and is shaped in such a way that the blade covers the blade holder over its full height and forms a contact face used for support in relation to the cutout.

9. (Previously Presented) The machine knife in accordance with claim 8, wherein for a stronger connection with the blade holder on the one hand, and for an improved support in relation to the cutout on the other hand, the blade has an extension section .

10. (Previously Presented) The machine knife in accordance with claim 9, wherein the extension section is stepped in relation to the blade holder .

11. (Previously Presented) The machine knife in accordance with claim 1, wherein the blade has been selected from ceramic material.

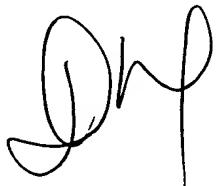
12. (Currently Amended) The machine knife in accordance with claim 1, wherein the blade has a coating of a material, ~~in particular diamonds~~, which is harder in comparison with the cutting material of the blade .

13. (Previously Presented) The machine knife in accordance with claim 1, wherein the blade is connected with the blade holder with the aid of a curable adhesive.

14. (Previously Presented) The machine knife in accordance with claim 1, wherein the blade is connected with the blade holder with the aid of a soldering material.

15. (Currently Amended) The machine knife in accordance with claim 1, wherein the blade is connected with the blade holder by means of welding, ~~and in particular ultrasound welding~~.

16. (Currently Amended) The machine knife in accordance with claim 1, wherein for the releasable connection between the knife support and the blade holder respectively a threaded bore in the knife support , a pass-through bore, which is aligned with it and whose entry is



widened, as well as a threaded fastener screw means, which can be embedded in a flat and flush
5 manner in the blade holder, are multiply provided.

10 17. (Previously Presented) The machine knife in accordance with claim 6, wherein at the knife tip the blade holder is recessed in respect to the knife support and is shaped in such a way that the blade covers the blade holder over its full height and forms a contact face used for support in relation to the cutout.

18. (Previously Presented) The machine knife in accordance with claim 17, wherein for a stronger connection with the blade holder on the one hand, and for an improved support in relation to the cutout on the other hand, the blade has an extension section.

19. (Previously Presented) The machine knife in accordance with claim 18, wherein the extension section is stepped in relation to the blade holder.

20. (Previously Presented) The machine knife in accordance with claim 6, wherein the blade has been selected from ceramic material.

21. (Currently Amended) The machine knife in accordance with claim 20, wherein the blade has a coating of a material, ~~in particular diamonds~~, which is harder in comparison with the cutting material of the blade.

22. (Previously Presented) The machine knife in accordance with claim 20, wherein the blade is connected with the blade holder with the aid of a curable adhesive.

23. (Previously Presented) The machine knife in accordance with claim 20, wherein the blade is connected with the blade holder with the aid of a soldering material.

24. (Currently Amended) The machine knife in accordance with claim 20, wherein the blade is connected with the blade holder by means of welding, ~~and in particular ultrasound welding~~.

25. (Currently Amended) The machine knife in accordance with claim 6, wherein for the releasable connection between the knife support and the blade holder respectively a threaded bore in the knife support, a pass-through bore, which is aligned with it and whose entry is widened, as well as a threaded fastener screw means, which can be embedded in a flat and flush manner in the blade holder, are multiply provided.

26. (New) The machine knife in accordance with claim 12, wherein the coating material is diamond.

27. (New) The machine knife in accordance with claim 21, wherein the coating material is diamond.

28. (New) The machine knife in accordance with claim 15, wherein the welding is ultrasound welding.

29. (New) The machine knife in accordance with claim 24, wherein the welding is ultrasound welding.

DW concluded